

GELN Update



To: Mike Hill and Scott Menzel, Co-chairs, MAISA Instructional Committee
Cc: William Miller, MAISA Executive Director
From: Joanne Hopper, Director
Date: May 18, 2017

Please see my GELN progress update below. If you have questions, please let me know.

Amplification (n) - connecting human beings who are:

- ✓ *listening to each other,*
- ✓ *interested in each other,*
- ✓ *bringing separate depth to the problem,*
- ✓ *bringing breadth that gives interest in the entire solution, allowing them to communicate on different levels, delivering a high-fidelity solution.*

Randy Nelson, Pixar

Organizational Progress

- **June GELN Retreat** – On June 13-14, the GELN membership will meet in Traverse City to hold our annual retreat focused on reviewing progress and planning for 2017-18 and beyond. This year, we will focus on further developing the common understanding of our values: to be **collaborative, proactive, and influential**. We will engage members in identifying what it means to be “All In” on agreed upon statewide goals, generate ideas for supporting these efforts, and develop recommendations that we will bring to the MAISA membership in June.
- **Connecting with the Top 10 in 10 Years** – Sheila Alles presented at the May GELN meeting, sharing her personal goals and updating us on the Top 10 in 10 progress. She then engaged GELN members in identifying work at each ISD connected to the priorities: **Effective Education Workforce, Systemic Infrastructure, Learner-Centered Supports, and Strategic Partnerships**. This informal data was shared with Sheila and will be aggregated and further developed at our June retreat. We will share the results with the MAISA membership in June in connection with the goals.
- **MI Roadmap** – Our network will be supporting MDE with the implementation of MI Roadmap, educational technology plan. The five goals of the plan are:
 - **Goal One - Learning:** Learners will have engaging and empowering learning experiences in both formal and informal settings in order to learn the skills necessary to become global citizens successful in the workplace and society
 - **Goal Two - Teaching:** Educators will be supported in understanding the skills necessary for students to become global citizens successful in the workplace and society; and in using instructional technology as an accelerator for student learning.
 - **Goal Three - Assessment:** Learners and educators will leverage technology to productively measure competency and provide meaningful feedback to support the personalization of learning for all students.
 - **Goal Four - Leadership:** Educational leaders will create transformational, equitable, technology-rich environments supporting a vision for personalized learning.
 - **Goal Five - Infrastructure:** Learners and educators will have access to a robust, secure, and comprehensive infrastructure to support everywhere, all-the-time learning.

If we are intentional in this work, the partnerships among educational organizations supporting the plan will help us develop systems and streamline processes to transform the way we support local districts and educators.

- **#GoOpen Michigan**, is an initiative launched by Superintendent Whiston focused on bringing open educational resources to every student and teacher in the state. GELN is providing representation and input to the statewide workgroup representing K-12, higher education, and educational organizations. The group is in the process of selecting a repository, identifying a vetting process, curating resources, and planning professional learning.

Literacy

- **District Coaches Institute** – Through our partnership with MDE, the Early Literacy Task Force is supporting the development of a literacy institute focused on the Essential Practices that will be offered at two locations this fall: September 11-14 in the Detroit Area, September 25-28 in Grand Rapids. Survey data from only 280 districts revealed there are over 400 literacy coaches in districts across the state. Expectations are high and there is a strong commitment to engage and support these coaches. We need the support of ISD and local superintendents to elevate the awareness and priority of this work.
- **Administrative Institute** – Working with MEMSPA and other Early Literacy Task Force partners, we are planning a [Leadership Institute](#) focused on [the Essential School-wide and Center-wide Practices in Early Literacy](#). The institute will be held in Lansing on June 26. It is funded by a grant from Michigan Department of Education in partnership with Gogebic-Ontonogan ISD, Michigan Virtual University, and MAISA.
- **MI ELA Summer Institute** – A subgroup of the MAISA ELA Leadership Team has been the key force in offering the [MI ELA Summer Institute](#), schedule for June 27 – 29 in Lansing. This year, sessions will address the Essential Instructional Practices as well as the MAISA ELA instructional units. We are leveraging grant funds to support the attendance of ISD coaches, who have also been invited to bring one local district coach. This is an expansion of efforts to build a statewide network supporting literacy.
- **Literacy Essentials for Grades 4 – 5** On May 10, the ELTF approved a final draft of the Grades 4 – 5 Essentials. These were presented to GELN on May 11. A final reading and adoption will occur at the June GELN meeting. Professional learning plans for this document will be a next step.
- **Literacy Data Partnership**. On May 16, Erin Brown, Naomi Norman, Susan Townsend, and I joined a small stakeholder group including representatives from METL, MDE, CEPI, and the data hub project. We began to develop a common understanding of the literacy assessment and data needs, and potential resources for support. The work will continue with a planning day in early June, and broader stakeholder engagement thereafter. The outcome has potential to change the way we support instruction if we act in concert to leverage our human and infrastructure networks. We will bring a report of our progress to MAISA in June as well.

Mathematics

- **Task Force Progress** – On May 24 we will hold our fourth meeting of the Early Mathematics Task Force. The group has engaged in developing a shared understanding of needs and applicable research. They are identifying an overarching aim, along with primary and secondary drivers, from which action plans will be developed. A Theory of Action will be presented for consideration at this meeting.
- **SAT Resources** – The GELN SAT Task Force is continuing its work to produce resources for local districts. A PSAT/SAT reporting module and training materials are under development focused on instructional supports. Regional facilitator training for the modules will be launched in late summer. The SAT math subgroup is developing a curated web-based instructional resources tool for teachers, as well written Instructional Practices Recommendations for the Redesigned SAT. The practices document was presented for a first draft review at GELN in May. We are securing funding for the publication of these documents, as soon as they are adopted in June.